

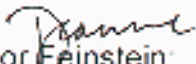


CITY HALL
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012

JAMES K. HAHN
MAYOR

May 12, 2005

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
United States Senate
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Senator  Feinstein:

I write to strongly endorse your comprehensive homeland security funding legislation, the "the Homeland Security FORWARD Funding Act of 2005," and to commend your continued leadership on the critical issue of homeland security.

Of the many proposals currently under consideration by Congress, your proposed legislation will go the furthest towards correcting the formula imbalances that exist in current law as it relates to the distribution of homeland security funds. Principally, the bill does this by reducing mandatory state minimums to .25% of homeland security funds, as opposed to the .75% required under current law. At the same time, the bill requires that the remaining funds will be distributed based on threat of terrorist attack and vulnerability, which ensures that our limited federal dollars reach those places where they are needed most.

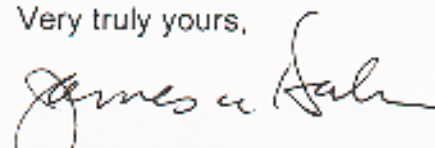
Your bill also reaffirms the federal government's partnership with those urban areas that are at highest risk of terrorist attack by grandfathering existing high-threat regions under the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI), under which the Los Angeles has a designation. I greatly appreciate this clause; it recognizes the solid improvements the Los Angeles Urban Area has made on homeland security and will allow us to maintain that progress for years to come.

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Furthermore, I am grateful that your bill does not restrict the federal share of funds that any homeland security project can receive. The City already faces tremendous fiscal pressures, which have been compounded by the additional national security obligations placed on first responders since the 9/11 attacks. That your proposal also recognizes the existence of dual-use technology and makes the maintenance of equipment an eligible expense for reimbursement makes the bill further better-suited to Los Angeles than other current legislative proposals.

I appreciate your outreach to Los Angeles and other jurisdictions that are on the front lines of the war on terrorism, and pledge to work with you to see that your bill becomes law. Thank you for your efforts.

Very truly yours,



JAMES K. HAHN
Mayor

JKH:da

cc: The Honorable Barbara Boxer, United States Senate
The Los Angeles Congressional Delegation